

Friday 20 January, 2017

Ghana benefits from European Union through training its mango farmers through Trade Related Assistance and Quality Enabling Programme (TRAQUE)



Mango Farmers Trained- It is hoped that training could increase mango production

The European Union funded Trade Related Assistance and Quality Enabling Programme (TRAQUE), has turned its sights to Ghana. They hope to train Ghana's mango farmers in better agricultural practices. By teaching better methods of farming the team hopes to increase the appeal of Ghana's mangoes on the Global market.

The country is beginning to tap its potential, as commercial mango production has increased in the northern part of Ghana, with over 5,000 acres being cultivated. However, yields are insufficient and farmers are unable to export their produce due to lack of skills and knowledge on current farming trends and a lack of reserves. These are the reasons which has necessitated the training which is a welcome to Ghanaian Mango farmers

source: www.ghanaweb.com

Fruit fly trap is developed by Punjab Agricultural University (PUA) which is eco-friendly and easy to use.



Punjab Agricultural University (PUA) comes to the rescue of farmers

An eco-friendly fruit fly traps developed by Punjab Agricultural University (PAU) are turning out to be quite beneficial to the farmers for the management of fruit flies in fruits like guava, mango, pear, peach and plum.

A fruit fly can damage mangoes especially the rainy season for up to 100%. This is now controlled, thanks to PUA invention. The same was provided for free or at a highly subsidised price.

Application of insecticides disrupts the ecosystem and causes numerous hazards. Among the various alternate strategies available for the management of fruit flies, the use of pheromone

traps stands as the most outstanding alternative.

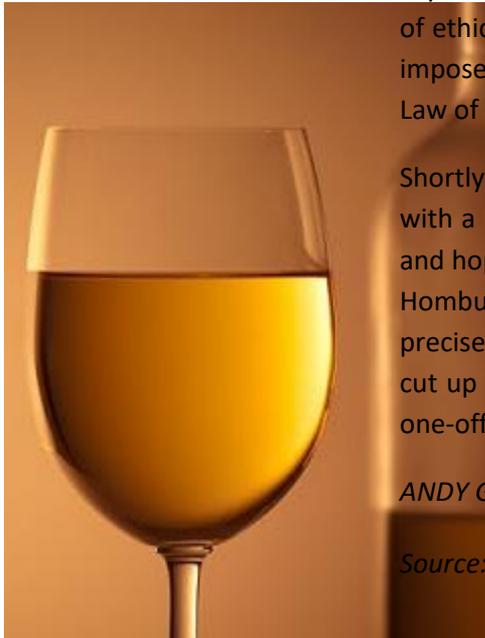
The application of insecticides is not much effective and more over cause numerous hazards to the environment. "The fruit fly trap developed by the PAU is the best as it does not allow male fruit flies to breed.

Source Tribune News Service

A taste of Mango wine brewed by Castelburg Brewery and Taproom, Garden Grove Brewing Co. and Strangeways Brewing Co.

Sensation taste of Mango Wine

Karl Homburg, owner and brewer at Castleburg, veers from his traditionalist approach with his popular Murder Hole Mango Double IPA. "My major concern is staying true to classic styles," Homburg says. "That's what makes brewing the mango a challenge, a challenge of ethics. This is not true to style." He says he strives to stick to a self-imposed purity law, like the Reinheitsgebot, or German Beer Purity Law of 1516, where using certain ingredients was illegal .



Shortly after starting to homebrew in his kitchen, Homburg came up with a beer that would "bring in tropical flavors and balance the malt and hops" of a double IPA. He found that mango worked "right away." Homburg uses a mango puree from Washington, which allows him to precisely measure the ratio of mango, and "I don't have to peel and cut up 30 pounds of mangoes." He admits that "initially, it was just a one-off, but it sold. The people have spoken and gave a nod

ANDY GARRIGUE Special correspondent Richmond Times-Dispatch

Source: <http://www.richmond.com/family/dining/article>

Poor mango prices due to oversupply has left most farmers with low or no profits

Prices expected to stabilise later



The mango market currently has too much product available. "It is going much less smoothly because demand is much lower than supply. As a consequence, prices are at a low level. The volumes are too high for the spot market. Programmes are doing quite well, but those prices are also too low," says Sjoerd Meijer from Fruit market.

Peru and Brazil are giant producers of mangoes and are on the market at the same time. The market currently has Peruvian product in particular, with a few containers from Brazil left. "Prices for fibreless mangoes dropped further from the start of December. Prices for Tommy Atkins have been stable at a low level for a while already." Meijer indicates that the Christmas period is always a more difficult time. "Sales are difficult around this period. In January we often see a recovery on the market because Brazil sends fewer mangoes. But this year, both origins were on the market at the same time. This has led to an oversupply, and we are still dealing with that."

Meijer hopes prices will increase somewhat. "If this situation lasts, no one will make a profit. It is still uncertain when prices will increase again. They are currently very low, so an increase should happen in the near future."

Source: www.fruitmarket.nl

Why mango trees drop immature fruits and what you need to do to avoid this



Keep your Mango tree healthy and balanced

Water: Right amount of water is an important factor for the growth of mango trees. Too much water can cause fruit dropping prematurely.

Weather: Mango trees grow well in warm tropical climates. A mature tree can, however, withstand low temperatures. You need to cover the tree to protect it from frost. Do not prune dead branches if the frost continues.

The mango fruit may fall if there is a cold weather during bloom and fruit set. The cold damages the developing embryo in the seed leading to ethylene gas emission causing fruits to drop before maturity.

Fertiliser: Over fertilisation or lack of it may lead to fruit fall. It is important to use a complete fertiliser developed for fruit trees, with correct ratios of nitrogen (N), phosphorous (P) and potassium (K).

Fruit load: Short-stemmed Apple mango variety, particularly those that set in clusters, will “push off” each other close to harvest. Good, early season thinning, especially by reducing clustered fruits, will help prevent this type of drop.

Tree nutrition and soil type: Drop is often worse in orchards where soils have incorrect nutrient levels – in particular, low magnesium (Mg), high potassium (K) and high boron (B). can play a part, for instance, sandy areas will ripen early and drop ahead of heavier soil types.

Source:

<http://www.nation.co.ke/business/seedsofgold/Why-mango-trees-drop-immature-fruits>